RDA in a nutshell

May 2017

RDA meets researchers in Bucharest, 30 May 2017, Bucharest – Leif Laaksonen
Vision
Researchers and innovators openly share data across technologies, disciplines, and countries to address the grand challenges of society.

Mission
RDA builds the social and technical bridges that enable open sharing of data.
What is RDA?

RDA is an international member based organization focused on the development of infrastructure and community activities that reduce barriers to data sharing and exchange, and the acceleration of data driven innovation worldwide.

With more than 5,400 members globally representing 123 countries, RDA includes researchers, scientists and data science professionals working in multiple disciplines, domains and thematic fields and from different types of organisations across the globe.

RDA is building the social and technical bridges that enable open sharing of data to achieve its vision of researchers and innovators openly sharing data across technologies, disciplines, and countries to address the grand challenges of society.
Strong linkage into the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC)

The European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) aims to accelerate and support the current transition to more effective open science and open innovation in the Digital Single Market.
How did it all start?

A bottom-up supported by US and Europe and the European Presidential Office and

The Data Access and Interoperability Task Force – DAITF (EU)

International Colloquium on Collaboration on Research Data Infrastructure - iCORDI (EU) – became soon RDA Europe 1

Concept Paper – Data Web Forum – DWF (US)
From DAITF/DWF to RDA

- The **Data Access and Interoperability Task Force** (DAITF) grew as an offspring to EUDAT and OpenAIRE with the help from the European Commission
  - Meeting in Lyon September 2011
  - Pre ICRI DAITF Preparation Workshop, Copenhagen, 20/21 March 2012

- RDA Europe project proposal refining the concept of the DAITF (EU) 2011 – with a start Sep 2012

- Concept Paper – **Data Web Forum** (US) presented in 2012

- RDA Global Steering Group was established in August 2012 (high level push by NSF + EC + AU)

- “Research Data Alliance Planning Meeting: Global Data” 1 – 3 October 2012 in Washington DC

- EUDAT 1st Conference in Barcelona 22-24 October 2012 had several presentations about the RDA and a broad discussion

- The first RDA Council members announced in Barcelona 2012 during the EUDAT conference: Fran Berman (US), John Wood (EU), Ross Wilkinson (AU)

- **RDA launched in Gothenburg on the 18th March 2013**
What does RDA do?

Members come together through self-formed, volunteer, focussed Working Groups, exploratory Interest Groups to exchange knowledge, share discoveries, discuss barriers and potential solutions, explore and define policies and test as well as harmonise standards to enhance and facilitate global data sharing & re-use.

RDA members collaborate together across the globe to tackle numerous infrastructure & data sharing challenges related to:

- Reproducibility
- Data preservation
- Best practices for domain repositories
- Legal interoperability
- Data citation
- Data type registries
- Metadata
- and so many more!
Who Can Join RDA?

Any individual or organization, regardless of profession or discipline, with an interest in reducing the barriers to data sharing and re-use and who agrees to RDA’s guiding principles of:

- Openness
- Consensus
- Balance
- Harmonization
- Community-driven
- Non-profit and technology-neutral

Individual Membership is free @ https://www.rd-alliance.org/user/register
Why Join RDA as an Individual Member?

**Individual Member Benefits**

- **Contribute** to acceleration of data infrastructure development
- Work and **share experiences** with collaborators throughout the world
- **Access** to extraordinary network of colleagues with various levels of experience, perspectives and practices
- Gain greater **expertise** in data science regardless of whether one is a student, early or seasoned career professional
- **Enhance** the quality and effectiveness of personal work and activities
- **Improve** one’s competitive advantage professionally and positioning oneself for leadership within the broader research community

[rd-alliance.org/get-involved/individual-membership.html](rd-alliance.org/get-involved/individual-membership.html)
Total RDA community members 5629

126 Countries

RDA worldwide growth

Europe 51%
Asia 9%
Africa 4%
Oceania 5%
South America 2%
Who is RDA?
Why Join RDA as an Organisational Member?

Organisational Member Benefits

- Provide an *organizational perspective* on the work of RDA and ability to influence RDA’s direction
- Assist in *implementation & adoption* of RDA Recommendations & Outputs
- Participate in all RDA Organizational Forums
- Receive regular *updates* on the work of the RDA
- Attend Organizational Assembly meetings and vote on *proposed policies* for consideration by the RDA Council and for members of the Organizational Advisory Board
- Provide *advice to RDA Council* through the Organizational Advisory Board
- Be recognized on the RDA Website and at RDA Meetings as a *supporter of data interoperability*

43 Organisational & 8 Affiliate Members

rd-alliance.org/get-involved/organisational-membership

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Organisational & Affiliate Members

43 Organisational Members

8 Affiliate Members

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Francoise will take you through the WGs and IGs...

I WILL JUST SAY A WORD ON RDA OUTCOMES
THE RDA OUTCOMES LEGEND

**Recommendations:** are the flagship outputs of RDA. They are RDA’s equivalent of the “specifications” or “standards” that other organisations create and endorse. The process for creating and endorsing these is already defined.

**Supporting Outputs:** are the outputs of RDA WGs and IGs that are fruit of RDA work, but are not necessarily adoptable bridges. “Upon request”, these sort of outputs go through a community comment period and if no major objections or gaps are identified they get the RDA Brand.

**Other Outputs:** include workshop reports, published articles, survey results, etc. Anything a WG or IG wants to register and report. Upon request, these are published and discoverable on the RDA website but have no level of endorsement.
What are Plenary Meetings?

- Organised around the world every 6 months
- Exciting & productive events bringing together a unique community of **data science professionals**, from multiple disciplines and domains;
- Help move the community forward in creating **tangible deliverables** that improve data sharing across disciplines, technologies, and countries;
- Heart of the plenaries are working meetings of **RDA Working & Interest groups** and new potential groups through **Birds of a Feather** meetings
- Presentation of new **Outputs and Adoption** cases
RDA Plenary Meetings: benefits of attending

- Exchange knowledge, share discoveries, discuss barriers and potential solutions
- Learn about new trends, strategies, research developments, directions and policies
- Expand your network and meet new committed and passionate data science professionals, working in multiple disciplines
- Contribute to acceleration of data infrastructure development
The 10th RDA Plenary Meeting will take place from 19 to 21 September 2017 in Montreal, Canada. The meeting is co-organised by RDA, the University of Montreal and Research Data Canada, Canada.

https://www.rd-alliance.org/plenaries/rda-tenth-plenary-meeting-montreal-canada
Support actions by RDA Europe

RDA Europe 3 is finishing by 28.02.2018 and it is still uncertain if RDA Europe 4 will be financed and what support actions it will contain!

However, RDA Europe 3 has supported:

- Student/Early career support to RDA Plenaries
- Hackatonics/Summer and Winter Schools
- RDA Collaboration Projects - Putting in practice RDA’s most valuable results

If RDA Europe 4 will be financed it will be based on supported National RDA nodes